

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 02333 290259Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /046 W

-----290710Z 017374 /21

R 281800Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9550

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

CONFIDENTIAL MADRID 2333

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: ELAB, SP

SUBJECT: WCL VISIT TO MADRID

REF: MADRID 2186

1. THE MARCH 21-26 VISIT TO MADRID OF WCL GENERAL SECRETARY JAN KULAKOWSKI HAS UNTIL NOW OCCASIONED ONLY TWO BRIEF NEWS ITEMS (MARCH 26) IN EL PAIS AND DIARIO 16. THE FIRST ACCOUNT STATED THAT KULAKOWSKI WAS HERE TO "INFORM HIMSELF ON THE TRADE UNION AND SOCIAL REALITIES OF SPAIN, NOTING THAT THE WCL LEADER HAD MET WITH LEADER OF THE BASQUE STV. THE CATALAN, SOC, THE SOCIALIST UGT. AND OTHER DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONS, AS WELL AS WITH OPPOSITION POLITICAL LEADERS INCLUDING FELIPE GONZALEZ (PSOE) AND JAQUIN RUIZ GIMENEZ (IZQUIERDA DEMOCRATICA). DIARIO 16 QUOTED KULAKOWSKI AS STATING THAT " IT IS NOT DESIRABLE FOR SPAIN THAT THERE BE CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONS HERE I UNDERSTAND THAT THEY HAVE NO MEANING FOR LACK OF TRADITION IN THIS COUNTRY AND THAT FURTHER MORE THEY WOULD BE A SOURCE OF CONFUSION". KULAKOWSKI ALSO SAID THAT SPANISH DEMOCRACY WOULD NEED STRONG AND DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONISM AS AN ELEMENT OF STABILITY: " A STABLE DEMOCRACY IS NOT POSSIBLE WITH WEAK TRADE UNIONISM.

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2. STB VICE PRESIDENT JOSE LEUNDA COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS TO LABATT ON MARCH 26. HE HAD MET WITH KULAKOWSKI WHO HAD BEEN MOST ANXIOUS THAT STV REMAIN AFFILIATED WITH WCL. FOR TIME BEING, THEREFORE STV WOULD KEEP IT DOUBLE AFFILIATION WITH ICFTU AND WCL. ACCORDING TO KULAKOWSKI THE WCL WAS NOT INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC

TRADE UNION ALTERNATIVE IN SPAIN, NOR WAS IT FOR THE MOMENT TRYING TO PRESSURE THE CHRITAIN SOCIALIST USO (WHICH HAS BEEN KEPT OUT OF THE ICFTU BY THE UGT) INTO JOINING THE WCL IN ADDITION TO THE UNIONS MENTIONED IN THE PRESS. LEUNDA SAID THAT KULAKOWSKI HAD ALSO MET WITH THE COMMUNIST DOMINATED SWC, AND THE ANARCHO SYNDICAL CNT. HE WAS STILL OF THE IMPRESSION THAT WCL WAS "COURTING " USO .

3. ALTHOUGH KULAKOWSKI MET WITH THE UGT MARCH 25, SUPPOSEDLY TO PUBLICLY SET THE RECRD STRAIGHT REGARDING ITS ALLEGED ROLE IN CONFIRMING A FALS STORY INVOLVING IRVING BROWN OTTO KERSTEN (ICFTU) AND SYNDICAL RELATIONS MINISTER DE LA MATA (REFTEL) NO SUCH CLARIFYING STATEMENT HAS YET APPEARED IN THE PRESS..EATON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MADRID 2186
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2978314
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WCL VISIT TO MADRID
TAGS: ELAB, SP, (KULAKOWSKI, JAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5d70a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009